

CONGRESSWOMAN HILDA L. SOLIS



WOMEN'S ISSUES UPDATE



Dear Friend:

I am working hard in Congress to improve the lives of women and families in our community. As Democratic Chair of the bipartisan Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, I am working every day to ensure that women's voices are heard on issues important to our families, including education, workplace rights, and the environment.

One of my top priorities in Congress is health care. As a member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which has jurisdiction over health issues, and Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus' Health Task Force, I feel strongly that we must do more to provide women and their families with affordable and comprehensive health care.

Enclosed is information about my work on these important issues. I hope you find it helpful.

Sincerely,

Hilda L. Solis
HILDA L. SOLIS
Member of Congress

Congresswoman Solis recognizes local women for their community service during a forum on women's issues in Rosemead.



"I'm working hard every day to improve the lives of

CONGRESSWOMAN SOLIS....IN THE COMMUNITY

ADDRESSING HEALTH CARE CHALLENGES

Congresswoman Solis, in cooperation with various national and community-based organizations, sponsored a health forum on July 7th in Los Angeles. Over 200 community activists attended the event, which addressed the lack of affordable care and health conditions which disproportionately affect the 32nd Congressional District, including obesity, diabetes, and kidney disease.

RECOGNIZING LOCAL WOMEN

On March 25th, during a meeting on women's issues, Congresswoman Solis recognized 13 women from the 32nd Congressional District for their extraordinary service to our communities.

Individuals recognized include: Audrey Travis, Dorothy Smith, Socorro Duran, Anna Araujo, Lillian Kawaratani, Mary Ellen Perea, Laura Butanda, Linda Meave, Cathy Glenn, Irene Ponce, Irene Test, Vera Durazo, and Gloria Gomez.

HONORING A LOCAL HERO

Legislation introduced by Congresswoman Solis to name a post office in Covina in honor of Captain Lillian K. Keil, the most decorated female veteran in U.S. military history, was signed into law on March 20, 2006 (Public Law 109-199). Captain Keil (1917-2005) was a flight nurse for the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II and the Korean War.

SUPPORTING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Congresswoman Solis secured \$100,000 in federal assistance for La Casa de San Gabriel Community Center and its Teen Relationship-Violence Prevention Project. The project will provide counseling and support groups for teenagers in abusive relationships.



Congresswoman Solis discusses the high cost of child care and the importance of federal assistance for child care facilities which serve low-income families.



Congresswoman Solis shares information about how to navigate the new Medicare prescription drug plan with seniors in El Sereno. Solis has expressed serious concerns about the confusing program and is working to ensure that seniors and people with disabilities get the simple, affordable, and reliable prescription drug benefit they deserve.

SIGN-UP TO RECEIVE MY E-NEWSLETTER

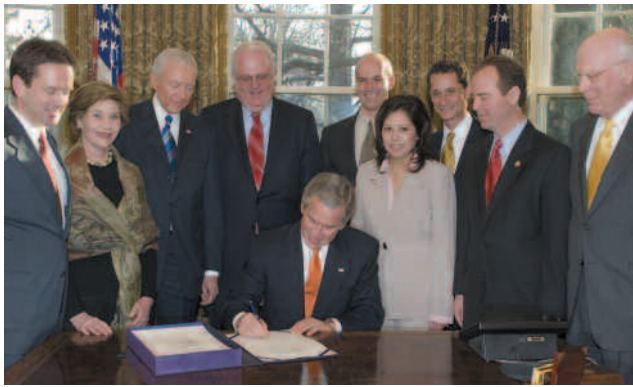
CONGRESSWOMAN SOLIS.....IN CONGRESS

MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

More than 13 million women in the U.S. are single mothers who aren't earning enough to provide for their children. Almost 60% of minimum wage earners are women. The federal minimum wage, currently set at \$5.15, hasn't been raised in 10 years! Congresswoman Solis is fighting to raise the federal minimum wage to \$7.25.

TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION

Thirty-four percent of young women become pregnant at least once before they reach the age of 20. For Latinas, the rate is 51%. Congresswoman Solis has introduced legislation (H.R. 5806) to help provide families, schools and communities with tools to prevent teen pregnancy in vulnerable communities.



Congresswoman Solis, a lead sponsor of the renewal of the Violence Against Women Act, attends the signing of the bill.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

Congresswoman Solis played a leading role in renewing the Violence Against Women Act (Public Law 109-162) this year. Two provisions authored by Solis - one to develop specialized courts to expedite domestic violence cases and the other to provide grants to educate minority and immigrant communities about domestic violence - were included in the bill.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Congresswoman Solis believes an attack on a woman anywhere is an attack on women everywhere. In May, the House and Senate passed legislation (H. Con. Res. 90) authored by Solis to address the disappearances and murders of more than 400 women in the U.S.-Mexico border city of Ciudad Juárez.



Congresswoman Solis, along with other women members of Congress, presents a Congressional Record statement to an active duty U.S. servicemember. The statement honors the long and distinguished history of women in the U.S. military.

NON-TRADITIONAL HEALTH SERVICE PROGRAMS

For many, navigating our complex health care system can be more frightening than being sick. Non-traditional health service providers, like the *Promotoras de Salud*, help bridge the gap for underserved families who need healthcare assistance. Congresswoman Solis has introduced legislation (H.R. 4469) to increase funding for such non-traditional programs because they reach underserved communities in ways that traditional healthcare cannot.

UPCOMING EVENT

Congresswoman Solis' Third Annual Veterans Care Day Event

**SATURDAY
AUGUST 26, 2006
10:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.**

**CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD
LOS ANGELES READINESS CENTER
1351 WEST SIERRA MADRE AVENUE
AZUSA, CA 91702**

*All families are welcome.
Refreshments will be available.*

**Topics To Be Addressed Include:
*Veterans' Benefits, Medicare,
Social Security.***

**Includes Information Booths,
Free Health Exams, and more!**

CONGRESSWOMAN SOLIS SUPPORTS A NEW DIRECTION FOR CALIFORNIA FAMILIES

MAKING HEALTH CARE MORE AFFORDABLE

Fix the prescription drug program by putting people ahead of drug companies and HMOs and negotiating lower drug prices.

LOWERING GAS PRICES AND ACHIEVING ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

Crack down on price gouging, eliminate billions in subsidies for oil and gas companies and develop American fuel alternatives.

CUTTING COLLEGE COSTS

Make college tuition deductible from taxes, expand Pell grants, and cut student loan interest rates.

PROTECTING SOCIAL SECURITY

Prevent the privatization of Social Security which would disproportionately hurt women.

Congresswoman Solis visits Thompson Elementary School in El Monte to discuss her opposition to proposed funding cuts to Head Start, Even Start, and other critical education programs.



My Offices Are Here To Help

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